

REMARKS

Initially, in the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 19, 27, 30-34, 36 and 37 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0061482 (Emmerichs) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0130900 (Davis). Further, claims 21, 22 and 35 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By the present response, Applicant has canceled claim 21 and 35 without disclaimer and amended claims 19 and 27 to further clarify the invention. Claims 19, 22, 27, 30-34, 36 and 37 remain pending in the present application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 21, 22 and 35 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has made the appropriate amendments, therefore, putting this application in condition for allowance.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections

Claims 19, 27, 30-34, 36 and 37 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Emmerichs in view of Davis. Regarding claims 19 and 27, Applicant has amended these claims with claims 21 and 35, respectively, deemed allowable by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicant submits that these claims are allowable over the cited references at least for these reasons.

Regarding claims 22, 30-34, 36 and 37, Applicant submits that these claims are dependent on one of independent claims 19 and 27 and, therefore, are patentable at least for the same reasons noted previously regarding these independent claims.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that none of the cited references disclose, suggest or render obvious the limitations in the combination of each of claims 19, 22,

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27, 30-34, 36 and 37 of the present application. Applicant respectfully requests that these rejections be withdrawn and that these claims be allowed.

Conclusion

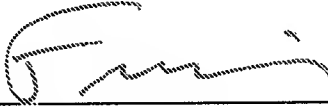
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that claims 19, 22, 27, 30-34, 36 and 37 are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of such claims is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions about the present Amendment or anticipates finally rejecting any claim of the present application, a telephone interview is requested.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 09-0461.

Respectfully submitted,

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